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Congress of the United States
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November 26, 2019

The Honorable Joel Szabat
Acting Under Secretary for Policy
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Acting Under Secretary Szabat,

I am writing to draw your attention to an important infrastructure project that is integral to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) efforts to modernize Interstate 25 in the greater Denver metropolitan area. The Crystal Valley Interchange is a crucial proposal that will provide much-needed traffic flow and safety upgrades to the I-25 corridor running through Castle Rock, Colorado, a vibrant and growing suburb south of Denver. As such, I ask that you give this project full and fair consideration as you review efforts to rebuilding the I-25 corridor.

Officials from the Town of Castle Rock and Douglas County have worked collaboratively with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) to modernize the Crystal Valley Parkway interchange to reduce traffic backups, address dangerous frontage road conditions, and overhaul currently unguarded railroad crossings abutting the intersection since the late 1980s. This project only continues to grow in importance as Colorado's Front Range, especially the Castle Rock region, experiences exponential growth and additional motorists utilizing the I-25 corridor. In fact, in 2017, the U.S. Census Bureau recognized Castle Rock as one of the seven fastest-growing cities in America, highlighting the urgent need to upgrade an increasingly congested and dangerous intersection on Colorado's most important thoroughfare.

This critical infrastructure project will address growing local traffic safety concerns on one of the busiest interstates in America. Specifically, the Crystal Valley Interchange project will combine robust local and private investment to upgrade entrance and exit ramps where the Crystal Valley Parkway intersects I-25. The project also calls for building 5.48 miles of new frontage road from Plum Creek Parkway to Tomah Road and addressing currently unrestricted rail crossings running along I-25. Altogether, these improvements will greatly enhance safety, relieve backups onto I-25, and reduce costly delays for motorists and shipping interests.

As such, I request that you give full and fair consideration to the Crystal Valley Interchange project. Thank you in advance for your consideration. Should you require additional information, please contact my Legislative Director, James Hampson, at james.hampson@mail.house.gov or 202-225-4676.

Sincerely,

Ken Buck
Member of Congress